

U.S. Pat. Appl. Ser. No. 10/532,375
Attorney Docket No. 10191/3674
Reply to Office Action of December 15, 2008

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached Replacement sheets of drawings including Figs. 1-5 replace the original sheets containing Figs. 1-5. Approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Attachment: four (4) Replacement sheets

REMARKS

With the cancellation of claim 12, claims 13 to 22 are currently pending in the present application, since claims 1 to 11 were previously canceled. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the acknowledgement of the claim for foreign priority and the indication that all copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

As regards the references listed in the previously filed Information Disclosure Statements, which were placed in the file but were not considered, enclosed herewith is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement re-listing those references and including copies of the cited references.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings because of the lack of descriptive legends. Applicants have amended the drawings to obviate the present objections. The specification has been amended to conform to the drawings as amended herein.

Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is therefore respectfully requested.

The Examiner has objected to the title of the invention. Applicants have amended the title herein, thereby rendering moot the present objection.

Withdrawal of the objection to the title is therefore respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claim 17 includes allowable subject. In this regard, the Examiner will note that claim 17 has been rewritten herein in independent form and to include the subject matter of its base claim. The Examiner will further note that claims 13 and 22 have been amended herein without prejudice so that claims 13 to 16 and 18 to 22 ultimately depend from claim 17. Claims 13, 15, and 16 were also amended for clarity. Accordingly, claims 13 to 22 are in condition for immediate allowance.

The remaining rejected claim has been canceled herein without prejudice, thereby obviating the remaining rejection.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the claims as previously presented in a continuation patent application. Further, any disclaimer that may have occurred during the prosecution of this application is expressly rescinded as regards any subsequently filed patent application.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of pending claims 13 to 22 are allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the objections and rejections be withdrawn. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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